

The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held its regular meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2013, in the Cabinet Room of the John G. Townsend Building, Dover, Delaware.

Present were: Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr., G. Patrick Heffernan, Randall L. Hughes, II, Dr. Terry M. Whittaker and Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary and Secretary of Education. Donna R. Johnson, who serves as the State Board's Executive Director, was also present.

Also in attendance were Catherine Hickey, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the State Board of Education; David Blowman, Deputy Secretary of Education; Karen Field Rogers, Associate Secretary for Financial Reform and Resource Management, Dr. Susan Haberstroh, Acting Associate Secretary, College and Workforce Readiness; Mary Ann Mieczkowski, Acting Associate Secretary for Teaching and Learning.

Attending portions of the meeting in conjunction with agenda items: Charlie Michels, Professional Standards Board (PSB); Joanne Reihm, Fran Purnell, Sara Kerr, Kati Villari, Laurel Lichty, Paul Harrell, Mary Kate McLaughlin, John Carwell, Alison Kepner, Brian Curtis and Keith Sanders.

Also attending: John Hindman, Deputy Attorney General; Ilona Kirshon, Deputy Attorney General; Kristin Dwyer, Delaware State Education Association (DSEA); G. Scott Reihm, Delaware Association of School Administrators (DASA); Susan Francis, Delaware School Boards Association; Matt Korobkin, Rodel Foundation; Kendall Massett, Delaware Charter School Network; Bob Smith, Amber Cooper, Budget Office, Leighann Hinkle, Budget Office.

Call to Order

President Gray presided over the monthly meeting and called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. She welcomed all guests to the State Board's monthly public meeting.

Approval of Agenda

The first order of business was approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Melendez
Mr. Coverdale		Mr. Hughes
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

Approval of Minutes

State Board Retreat – December 7-8, 2012

The Board received a copy of the minutes from the December 7-8, 2012 retreat prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the minutes of the State Board retreat as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Melendez
Mr. Coverdale		Mr. Hughes
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

Regular Meeting- December 20, 2012

The Board received a copy of the regular meeting minutes prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the minutes of the State Board regular meeting held on December 20, 2012 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Melendez
Mr. Coverdale		Mr. Hughes
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

Formal Public Comment

It was indicated that this was the time the Board set aside for formal public comment. Dr. Gray announced that no individuals signed up to address the State Board.

State Board Business

Committee Reports from State Board Members

Dr. Whittaker provided his report and included the month of December as he was unable to attend the regular meeting. He attended and commented on the Board's retreat.

Mr. Coverdale attended an event sponsored by the Mayor of Wilmington at the Delaware Children's Museum.

Mr. Heffernan commented on the Reading Assist Conference he recently attended. He stated that it was very interesting to hear the reading experts. Mr. Heffernan attended the charter school work group meeting. He noted that the diverse group shared the goal of finding common ground

for charter renewals and new applications. Mr. Heffernan publicly thanked Rebecca Taber from the Governor's Office for bringing the group together and facilitating the discussions.

Mr. Heffernan also indicated that he would be attending the State of the State address that afternoon.

Mr. Melendez attended the January 4th meeting of the Charter School Accountability Committee.

Ms. Johnson explained that Mr. Hughes had a work commitment this morning but planned to attend today's Board meeting. She noted that the Board discussed connecting with local boards at its recent retreat and commented that Mr. Hughes made a presentation at the Colonial School District board meeting through his employment on public safety but it also allowed him to connect as a State Board member. Board members were asked to notify the State Board Office of their availability to attend local or charter board meetings to continue this planned outreach.

Ms. Johnson highlighted some of the informational articles that were provided on the eBoards meeting site. She announced that February 6th is Digital Learning Day and will also mark the Board's one year anniversary of the subject of the SBE's first tweet. She noted the Delaware Center for Educational Technology is providing a four day virtual conference for educators and through that she will be providing webinar on digital citizenship.

Dr. Gray joined the First Lady of the City of Wilmington for a tea which provided interaction with community members and discussion on public safety, early childhood and parent involvement. She attended the Jobs for Delaware Graduates board meeting. Delaware is one of the funding members of Jobs for American Graduates. JDG aligns with the Board's mission to prepare our students to be college and career ready.

State Board Procedures Manual

Catherine Hickey, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the State Board of Education, highlighted the proposed changes in the Procedures Manual. These changes alter the meeting agenda format.

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to approve the proposed revisions to the Board's Procedures Manual. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Melendez
Mr. Coverdale		Mr. Hughes
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

Dropout Summary and Preliminary Graduation Data

Sara Kerr, Chief Performance Officer, Delivery Unit was joined by Joanne Reihm, and Fran Purnell, Education Associates, College and Workforce Readiness Branch, for the presentation.

Ms. Kerr began by defining a dropout which is an individual who was enrolled and attended at the beginning of the current school year and was withdrawn by parent, legal guardian or relative caregiver at age 16 or older, or was withdrawn by self after 18th birthday. It can also be an individual who either was enrolled at the end of the previous year but did not attend any days of the current year or does not meet any of the following exclusionary conditions. The exclusionary conditions include: graduated from high school or completed a state/district approved educational program, or transferred to another public school district, private school, or state/district approved education program with official documentation on file, or moved out of state with official documentation on file, or is deceased.

The dropout rate is calculated for grades 9 through 12 as prescribed by the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES). The dropout rate is the total number of students (grades 9-12) who dropped out in a single year, divided by the total enrollment of the same school year. For the 2011-12 school year, grades 9 – 12; 1,527 of the 38,900 students enrolled dropped out of school which equals a dropout rate of 3.9%. Ms. Kerr noted that this was a slight increase over last year's rate of 3.7%. Multi-year trend data does show that Delaware is headed in the right direction. Ms. Kerr also explained that three years ago there was a shift in how the rate was calculated. On the national level, Illinois tops the nation with a dropout rate of 11% and Wyoming has the lowest at 1%.

The Board was provided with county by county data that showed of the 1,527 dropouts, 56.3% are from New Castle County, 23.2% from Kent County and 20.5 from Sussex County. Graphs were presented that displayed the dropout rate by racial subgroups, the rates by district/charter school, gender and grade. The Board discussed some of the graphs and noted the very high rate at Moyer of 29% and that eight schools upstate also had dropout rates above 5%. There was also discussion on how special education student were overly represented and more students drop out in 9th grade. Dr. Gray noted that 3.9% may be a small number but when you realize it is 1600 students it is very real. There was further discussion that the reason why students drop out is not always noted. The process of the importance of records being requested was explained and the Delaware Early Warning System (DEWS) study which flags indicators in a student's file to prevent the student dropping out. Mr. Heffernan commented that one common denominator in dropouts is their reading ability. The Board noted that schools with a low dropout rate have initiated programs that are effective and can be shared with other schools.

The second part of the presentation focused on the Graduation Rate and Ms. Kerr explained how the ESEA Four-Year Adjusted Graduation Rate is calculated. If you do not graduate within four years, you are not included in the graduation rate. Ms. Reihm noted that in 2008 the guidelines were changed that you must receive a diploma in four years. Ms. Kerr shared preliminary data but explained that the districts were still within the window provided to complete verification of their data. The preliminary data does show that the graduation rate has increased to 80.3% and the increase is across the board in all subgroups. Nationally, Delaware's rate is in the middle of all states but it was noted that Delaware has more rigorous requirements than other states. St. George's High School leads the state with a preliminary graduation rate of 98%.

The Board was presented with information on the Cohort Management System which was piloted in 2010-2011. This system will track a high school cohort and assist in managing and preventing dropouts. There was discussion that districts need to insure that the data is up to date to assist in the accuracy and success of the system.

Update on Partnership Zone Schools and Focus Schools Progress and Performance

Secretary Murphy introduced Keith Sanders, the Department's Chief Officer of the School Turnaround Unit. Mr. Sanders comes to the Department by way of New Orleans and Memphis where he was instrumental in the success of the turnaround of schools in those areas.

The Board was reminded of the first round Partnership Zone Schools which were named in August of 2010: Howard High School of Technology, NCCVT; Glasgow High School, Christina School District; Stubbs Elementary School, Christina School District; Positive Outcomes Charter School. Schools selected in September 2011 as second round schools were: Dover High School, Capital School District; Laurel Middle School, Laurel School District; Bancroft Elementary School, Christina School District; Lewis Dual Language Elementary School, Red Clay Consolidated School District; Marbrook Elementary School, Red Clay Consolidated School District; and Stanton Middle, Red Clay Consolidated School District.

Focus Schools named in July of 2012 were from the Capital School District: Fairview Elementary School and Booker T. Washington Elementary School; from Christina School District: Bayard Middle School, Kirk Middle School, Newark High School and Oberle Elementary; from the Milford School District: Benjamin Banneker Elementary School; from the Red Clay Consolidated School District: A.I. DuPont Middle School, Baltz Elementary School, and Warner Elementary School; from the Seaford School District: Frederick Douglas Elementary School and West Seaford Elementary School; and the New Maurice J. Moyer Academy Charter School.

Mr. Sanders shared the mission and role of the School Turn Around Unit. It is clear that the number one priority is to provide support. He explained that the designation of being a Partnership Zone School or a Focus School is not bad as it is an opportunity to be a change agent and trailblazer. The focus now is also on the implementation and support teachers with best practice principles. Mr. Sanders commented that community and parental support were imperative for a school to turnaround and become successful. The Unit will also look at the transition to Common Core Standards and the social development of the students in these schools. There will be focus on the school culture.

Dr. Gray asked Mr. Sanders to return in a few months and present details and provide outcomes and results, including data points that support these results. The Board is interested in looking at the change in culture of the school as a result of these turnaround efforts. The Board wants to know their dropout rates, how many students are graduating, as well as their student growth.

Mr. Sanders explained that these schools need a plan of action and supports. The schools also need to define the root cause of the academic decline in order to find a solution.

The Board took a brief recess at 10:55 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:05 a.m.

Secretary's Report, Review and Discussion

Secretary Murphy provided a brief report. He stated that the conversation on college readiness needs to be kept alive and the awareness of the data that is available to support schools in that work and to help them understand the data. On the Common Core front, districts are currently deciding if they wish to join the Department in the Common Ground for the Common Core planned initiative. Secretary Murphy anticipates approximately 80% of the districts joining in the effort which is an 18 month plan that focuses on curriculum, assessment and instruction through the use of the PLCs. He explained that not all the districts are at the same place in their Common Core Implementation and some have exceeded the State in their Common Core efforts. Districts that are not participating are doing what is in the best interest of their teachers.

Mr. Murphy highlighted the State's partnership with College Board including Advanced Placement initiatives. College Board is forging new paths and is implementing a high school pilot program for 11th graders on the SAT. The pilot will determine what support is needed for college readiness, curriculum and assessments.

Secretary Murphy updated the Board on internal changes in the Department that will provide clarity on the support efforts of the Department. The new Chief Academic Officer will oversee the Department's role that focuses on preparing students and will be academic based. The Higher Education Office, as well as career and technology education and all K-12 education will be housed under that branch. Dr. Haberstroh will oversee school support roles of the Department that are nonacademic. In the interim, Secretary Murphy stated that the area of assessment will report to him.

The last update by Mr. Murphy concerned NAEP. He reported that this fall district data will be received. He noted that the State has asked for this data and it will be a great resource.

Action Items

Department of Education Regulations

540 Driver Education (For Discussion)

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 540 Driver Education to allow for students with Individual Education Programs (IEPs) additional time to complete driver education pursuant to House Bill No. 264 as amended by House Amendment No. 1 of the 146th General Assembly. Additionally, changes were made to reflect the elimination of fees for driver education for nonpublic school students who are Delaware residents.

Dr. Haberstroh noted that the comments have been received by the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens and were being reviewed. The comment period of this amendment would be sixty days. Proposed action by the State Board will be presents at its March meeting.

Professional Standards Board

Charles Michels, Executive Director of the Professional Standards Board, presented the PSB items on the agenda.

He stated there were five amended regulations on the agenda for discussion.

1550 Agriscience Teacher (For Discussion)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1550 AgriScience Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). This regulation is being reviewed under a five year cycle. One small change has been deemed necessary to update language and to delete the reference to the Limited Standard Certificate which no longer is valid. This regulation sets forth the requirements for an AgriScience Teacher.

1551 Business Education Teacher (For Discussion)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1551 Business Education Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). This regulation is being reviewed under a five year cycle. One small change has been deemed necessary to update language and to delete the reference to the Limited Standard Certificate which no longer is valid. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Business Education Teacher.

1554 Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher (For Discussion)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1554 Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). This regulation is being reviewed under a five year cycle. Small changes have been deemed necessary to update language and to delete the reference to the Limited Standard Certificate which no longer is valid. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher.

1555 Marketing Education Teacher (For Discussion)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1555 Marketing Education Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). This regulation is being reviewed under a five year cycle. Small changes have been deemed necessary to update language

and to delete the reference to the Limited Standard Certificate which no longer is valid. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Marketing Education Teacher.

1557 Technology Education Teacher (For Discussion)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1557 Technology Education Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a).). This regulation is being reviewed under a five year cycle. Small changes have been deemed necessary to update language and to delete the reference to the Limited Standard Certificate which no longer is valid. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Technology Education Teacher.

Mr. Michels noted that no comments have been received on the regulations. Proposed action by the State Board will be presented next month.

Mr. Michels stated that the follow regulations were for action by the State Board.

1531 Middle Level English Language Arts Teacher (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1531 Middle Level English Language Arts Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. One small change has been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Middle Level English Language Arts Teacher.

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to approve the amended Regulation 1531, Middle Level English Language Arts Teacher, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1532 Middle Level Mathematics Teacher (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE

Admin. Code 1532 Middle Level Mathematics Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. One small change has been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Middle Level Mathematics Teacher.

A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to approve the amended Regulation 1532, Middle Level Mathematics Teacher, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1533 Middle Level Science Teacher (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1533 Middle Level Science Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. One small change has been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Middle Level Science Teacher.

A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to approve the amended Regulation 1533, Middle Level Science Teacher, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1534 Middle Level Social Studies Teacher (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1534 Middle Level Social Studies Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. One small change has been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Middle Level Social Studies Teacher.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the amended Regulation 1534, Middle Level Social Studies Teacher, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1540 Secondary English Language Arts Teacher (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1540 Secondary English Language Arts Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. One small change has been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Secondary English Language Arts Teacher.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the amended Regulation 1540, Secondary English Language Arts Teacher, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1542 Secondary Mathematics Teacher (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1542 Secondary Mathematics Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. One small change has been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Secondary Mathematics Teacher.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the amended Regulation 1542 Secondary Mathematics Teacher, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1544 Secondary Social Studies Teacher (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1544 Secondary Social Studies Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. One small change has been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Secondary Social Studies Teacher.

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to approve the amended Regulation 1544 Secondary Social Studies Teacher, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1549 Dance Teacher (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1549 Dance Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. One small change has been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Dance Teacher.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the amended Regulation 1549 Dance Teacher, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1558 Theater Teacher (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1558 Theater Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to review this regulation in order to comply with the 5 year regulation review process. One small change has been deemed necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Theater Teacher.

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to approve the amended Regulation 1558 Theater Teacher, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1574 Teacher of Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1574 Teacher of Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to amend this regulation to update current coursework requirements and to accommodate current formatting. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Teacher of Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

Mr. Michels stated that comments were received from the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens and State Council for Persons with Disabilities. The PSB reviewed those comments and responded. He will share it with the Professional Standards Board.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the amended Regulation 1574 Teacher of Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

1575 Teacher of Students With Visual Impairments (For Action)

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1575 Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to amend this regulation to update current course requirements and to accommodate

current formatting. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a Teacher of Students With Visual Impairments.

Comments were received by the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens and the State Council for Persons with Disabilities.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the amended Regulation 1575 Teacher of Students with Visual Impairment as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present At Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray	None.	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Melendez		
Mr. Coverdale		
Mr. Heffernan		
Dr. Whittaker		

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

Charter Schools

John Carwell, Director of the Charter Schools Office, presented the charter school items.

Application for Renewal of an Existing Charter Sussex Academy of Arts and Sciences (For Action)

Background information was provided noting that the school was approved at the March 1998 and the school's charter was renewed in July, 2003, for an additional five years and again renewed in 2007 for another five-year term. The Charter School Accountability Committee has reviewed the recent application to renew the school's charter for the term of five years. A public hearing on the application was conducted on January 3, 2013.

Mr. Carwell stated that it was the recommendation of the Charter School Accountability Committee to approve the renewal of the school's charter with the following conditions:

Criterion Two: Form of Organization

That on or before the Public Hearing to be held in this matter, the school submit revised bylaws, in a form satisfactory to the Secretary of Education, which shall:

- (1) identify the conditions of membership in the corporation and contain appropriate provisions for meetings of the members unless the bylaws indicate that membership in the corporation is restricted to the members of the board of directors of the corporation;
- (2) not contain any reference to action by the board of directors or members by written consent without meeting; and

(3) contain the required limitation of the corporation's business pursuant to 14 DE *Admin Code* 275.4.1.3.2.

Criterion Eight: Economic Viability

(1) On or before 15 December 2012, the school shall identify a site and provide a detailed construction or renovation plan, as appropriate in the circumstances, that contains specific dates to ensure that a Certificate of Occupancy shall be obtained on or before 15 June 2013. [Note: the school has submitted a detailed renovation plan]

(2) Provide a plan with dates and action items to be completed to make certain that the school is on track with renovations and to obtain certificates and other required approvals.

(3) The school shall provide quarterly updates about progress on the facility pursuant to the school's approved modification request to expand to grades nine to twelve.

(4) Provide supporting financial information and budgets indicating that the school will be economically viable following the acquisition and preparation of the site.

Criterion Nine: Administrative and Financial Operations

(1) On or before 31 January 2013, Sussex Academy shall develop a new Performance Agreement that is aligned with the requirements in 14 DE *Admin Code* 275 and shall submit the agreement to the DDOE for its review.

(2) On or before 30 April 2013, Sussex Academy shall submit a report to the DDOE that summarizes the outcomes of the school's outreach efforts to under-represented populations.

There was discussion on outcomes and measures at the school and the Board was reminded that the draft performance agreement is included in the application and would not be finalized until after the charter is approved. The Board also asked if the annual report had been posted as well as the quality of the report. Mr. Carwell stated there was no reason to reject the report or request any additional information. Dr. Gray noted that from the performance framework the school showed great progress in growth and she commended the school for advancing the low performing students.

Secretary Murphy stated that after review of the record he is accepting the recommendation of the Charter School Accountability Committee to approve the renewal of this charter school for a term of five years with the conditions presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan that based on the review of the record and consideration of the Secretary's approval that the Board assent to the approval of the application for renewal subject to the conditions attached as recommended by the Secretary. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:

Nays:

Dr. Gray
Mr. Melendez
Mr. Coverdale
Mr. Heffernan
Mr. Hughes
Dr. Whittaker

None.

Application for Renewal of an Existing Charter Thomas A. Edison Charter School
(For Action)

Background information was provided noting the Thomas A. Edison Charter School opened in September 2000 with 835 children in grades kindergarten to grade five. The school's charter was renewed in July, 2003, for an additional five years and again renewed in 2007 for another five-year term. The Charter School Accountability Committee has reviewed the recent application to renew the school's charter for the term of five years. A public hearing on the application was conducted on January 3, 2013.

Mr. Carwell stated that it was the recommendation of the Charter School Accountability Committee to approve the renewal of the school's charter with the following conditions:

Criterion Two: Form of Organization

On or before the Public Hearing on 3 January, 2013, Thomas A. Edison Charter School shall amend its bylaws, in a manner satisfactory to the Secretary of Education, to reflect that the Board of Directors of the charter school, and any subcommittee of the Board, shall be a public body subject to the requirements of Chapter 100 of Title 29 and that they will act in compliance therewith. Any provisions relating to action by consent of the Board members without meeting; action by teleconference other than videoconference; and any meeting notice requirements inconsistent with the provisions of Chapter 100 shall be removed from the bylaws.

Criterion Four: Goals for Student Performance

On or before 31 January 2013, and in cooperation with the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE), staff from Thomas Edison A. Charter School shall develop a plan to address concerns relative to students' science and social studies performance on State assessment measures. Furthermore, school staff shall cooperate with the DDOE in conducting at least one review of science academic performance and one of social studies academic performance each year and in providing targeted professional development as indicated by the review(s).

Criterion Six: Educational Program

On or before 31 January 2013, Thomas A. Edison Charter School shall provide a detailed plan to the Delaware Department of Education for building the capacity of staff to

integrate SMARTBoard and ELMO projector technology into instruction to increase teaching opportunities; provide opportunities for students to interact with the technology; and ultimately to increase student achievement.⁵

Criterion Nine: Financial and Administrative Operations

No later than 31 January 2013, Thomas A. Edison Charter School shall develop a new Performance Agreement that is aligned with the requirements in the Delaware Department of Education Regulation 275 and shall submit the agreement to the DDOE for its review.

Secretary Murphy stated that after review of the record he is accepting the recommendation of the Charter School Accountability Committee to approve the renewal of this charter school for a term of five years with the conditions presented.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker that based on the review of the record and consideration of the Secretary's approval that the Board assent to the approval of the application for renewal subject to the conditions attached as recommended by the Secretary. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez.

Mr. Coverdale asked about the test scores in science and social studies and Mr. Carwell indicated that the performance framework focuses on English language arts and mathematics but did not show where the school has made great strides in science and social studies but noted that still those scores are lower than the average scores. There was discussion on how the framework does provide a better picture of a school's academic performance. Dr. Gray did acknowledge that based on the performance framework the school is making progress in the right direction even though they are not meeting or exceeding the state average in proficiency, they are rated Meets standard in the Academic Framework when evaluated by all measures included in the framework. The school is also addressing the needs of its lowest performing students and making commendable growth. Discussion continued on the various grade levels and the test scores as compared to the state's average. It was noted that the school has a high poverty rate of 75% and the school's retention rate is high with 91% of its students returning the following year. Mr. Melendez noted the school's many challenges and stated that the performance framework lets the Board know how the school is doing and they are moving in a positive direction. Mr. Coverdale stated that as the scores in the lower grades do not meet or exceed the state average, it would be a disservice to lower income communities to approve the renewal. Other Board members noted the trend data showed positive progress, including the most recent overall rating of meets standard academically and recognizes the positive aspects that the school is doing for its students.

The motion carried with the following voice vote recorded:

Ayes:

Nays:

Dr. Gray
Mr. Melendez
Mr. Heffernan
Mr. Hughes
Dr. Whittaker

Mr. Coverdale

Decisions on Applications to Consider for New Charters to Open in
August or September 2014 (For Information)

The deadline for receipt of applications for approval to open new charter schools in August or September 2014 was January 2, 2013. Mr. Carwell stated that four applications were received and the applications were deemed complete to proceed through the process. The applications were:

1. Name of Proposed School: The Delaware MET

Proposed Location: New Castle County

Proposed Grade Configuration: Year One (2014-15) Grade 9 -10 264 Students

Year Two (2015-16) Grades 9-11 396 Students

Year Three (2016-17) Grades 9-12 528 Students

Year Four (2017-18) Grades 9-12 528 Students

Purpose: To be the first BIG Picture Learning (BPL) charter high school in New Castle County, serving students in grades 9-12. As with other BIG Picture Learning (BPL) schools, nationally and internationally, the charter school will be built on a commitment to educate "One Student at a Time." BPL high schools are designed to recognize that each student has unique interests, needs, and abilities that can be harnessed to drive a powerful education program for that student. The key to achievement in this learning environment lies in fostering the students' individual interests and encouraging their active participation in the learning process. The fundamental focus is to create opportunities for authentic learning in order to develop students' abilities to apply knowledge and skills to real life experiences and challenges.

2. Name of Proposed School: Delaware Design-Lab High School

Proposed Location: New Castle County

Proposed Grade Configuration: Year One (2014-15) Grade 9 -10 240 Students

Year Two (2015-16) Grades 9-11 380 Students

Year Three (2016-17) Grades 9-12 520 Students

Year Four (2017-18) Grades 9-12 560 Students

Purpose: A community-based tuition-free public charter high school whose mission is to educate every student, at any level of development, optimizing each one's opportunity to succeed in post-secondary college and careers, design every aspect of the school experience to ensure optimum academic and social growth. Education features safe, civil school culture; dynamic learning environment; innovative Science, Technology,

Engineering, Media and Design (STEMD©) curriculum; and Design Learning practices that encourage communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity.

3. Name of Proposed School: First State Military Academy

Proposed Location: Kent County

Proposed Grade Configuration: Year One (2014-15) Grade 9 -10 200 Students

Year Two (2015-16) Grades 9-11 325 Students

Year Three (2016-17) Grades 9-12 450 Students

Year Four (2017-18) Grades 9-12 500 Students

Purpose: To provide an educational experience that focuses on developing the intellectual, physical and emotional growth of our Cadets. Through an environment of academic rigor, military discipline, citizenship, leadership and the application of strong moral values, graduates will develop respect for themselves, those on whom they depend, and those that depend on them, ensuring successful entry into adult life.

4. Name of Proposed School: Pike Creek Charter Middle School

Proposed Location: New Castle County

Proposed Grade Configuration: Year One (2014-15) Grade 6-7 245 Students

Year Two (2015-16) Grades 6-8 320 Students

Year Three (2016-17) Grades 6-8 380 Students

Year Four (2017-18) Grades 6-8 380 Students

Purpose: To promote pre-adolescent student achievement through rigorous academic instruction while incorporating wellness and fitness strategies. Ensuring the students are prepared to succeed in the most prestigious academic settings and live a healthy and physically active lifestyle. The school model will focus on the use of physical activity and wellness in all academic subjects to advance student achievement. Kinesthetic movements will be incorporated into all academic subjects and will create engaging, rigorous, and research proven instruction.

Applications to Modify Existing Charters (For Information)

Mr. Carwell explained that the deadline for submission of applications to modify existing charters was January 2, 2013. The following applications were received by the Department of Education's Charter Schools Office:

1. Academy of Dover: Add grade 5
2. *East Side Charter School: Increase enrollment by 5.2%
3. *Gateway Lab School: Delay adding grades 1-2
4. Kuumba Academy Charter School: Add Pre-Kindergarten and grades 6, 7 and 8

5. MOT Charter School: Add high school (grades 9-12)

6. New Maurice Moyer Academy: Decrease enrollment by 54% (365-220)

* Minor Modification Applications

Pencader Business and Finance Charter High School Formal Review Update

Mr. Carwell explained that the final meeting of the Charter School Accountability Committee was held on January 4th. The final report did address the inaccuracies in the responses from the school in their response to the preliminary report and included those among the deficiencies highlighted in the final report. He stated that the final minutes from that meeting would provide additional clarity to the final report and are included as part of the complete record to be reviewed by the Board. The public hearing is scheduled for February 11th and has been moved to the Collette Center which is a larger space than the Cabinet Room. Proposed action by the Board will be on the February State Board meeting agenda. The report of the Charter School Accountability Committee recommends revocation of the school's charter.

Charter Schools Update

Mr. Carwell highlighted the charter schools update listing. There was a brief discussion on Moyer Academy and its plan as a Focus School as well as the school having the highest dropout rate in the state. The school is also requesting a modification to decrease its enrollment.

Information Items

Dr. Gray asked Board members to review the information items listed in the agenda and noted there were no other action items before the Board.

The Board was reminded that there would be a work session prior to the February 21st State Board meeting.

Adjournment

There be no further business, a motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary
and Secretary of Education

An audio of the entire meeting is available on the State Board's website at: <http://www.doe.k12.de.us/infosuites/ddoe/sbe/default.shtml>